



**Rural Economies Centre of Excellence  
Annual Forum  
1 & 2 October 2019, USQ, Toowoomba Campus**

**Day One**

**Tuesday, 1 October 2019**

5.30pm - 6.30pm	We all be rooned, but it's a great place to live: Negotiating contradictory narratives of rurality for more effective policy-making Presented by Professor Geoff Cockfield, USQ	Alison Dickson Lecture Theatre H102
6.30pm - 7.30pm	Welcome Drinks and Canapes	

**Day Two**

**Wednesday, 2 October 2019**

9.00am - 9.30am	Arrival & Registration				Alison Dickson Lecture Theatre H102
09.30am - 09.45am	Welcome: Assoc Professor Ben Lyons, Director RECoE				
09.45am - 10.30am	Official Opening and Keynote speaker: the Hon Mark Furner, Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries				
10.30am - 11.00am	Morning Tea Break				
11.00am - 11.45am	Connectivity, Disruption and the Digital Economy in Rural Australia. Presenter: Professor Hurriyet Babacan, The Cairns Institute/USQ				
11.45am - 12.30pm	Entrepreneurship and innovation: New drivers of rural economic development? Presenter: Chad Renando, USQ/StartUp Status				
12.30pm - 1.15pm	Lunch Break				
1.15pm - 3.00pm	Deliberative Discussions breakout groups:				
	Rural Tourism Development	Employment & Skilling	Enabling Economic Development from Infrastructure	Enhancing Agricultural Value Chains	Low Carbon Futures & Regional Energy
	Room K201	Room K203	Room K211	Room K213	Room K301
3.00pm - 3.30pm	Afternoon Tea Break				Alison Dickson Lecture Theatre H102
3.30pm - 4.15pm	Reconvene and discuss topics from breakout groups: Prof Allan Dale, The Cairns Institute/JCU				
4.15pm - 5.00pm	Policy implications				
5.00pm	Summary and close				

[www.ruraleconomies.org.au](http://www.ruraleconomies.org.au)

Collaborating with

